

BRUNSWICK RECREATION COMMISSION

DATE: July 17, 2019
TIME: 7:00 pm

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL
85 UNION STREET

MINUTES

Present: Chair, Mike Lyne and Commissioners Eric Foushee, William Wilkoff, Brianne Smithson, and Melissa Archbell.

Absent: None

Also Present: Director of Parks and Recreation, Thomas Farrell; Deputy Director, Troy Smith; Melissa Fochesato, Director of Community Health Promotion at Midcoast Hospital

Chair, Lyne welcomed everyone and then asked Commissioners and staff to introduce themselves.

1 **MINUTES**

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2018

Minutes up for consideration were included in packets disseminated to the Recreation Commission in advance of today's meeting. Chair Lyne stated that all were present before calling for a motion on the minutes.

COMMISSIONER ARCHBELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES;
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FOUSHEE. VOTE 5-0 UNANIMOUS OF THOSE PRESENT

MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2019

Chair Lyne stated that all were present before calling for a motion on the minutes.

COMMISSIONER WILKOFF MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITHSON. VOTE 5-0 UNANIMOUS OF THOSE PRESENT

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Chair Lyne stated that all were present before calling for a motion on the minutes.

COMMISSIONER FOUSHEE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ARCHBELL. VOTE 5-0 UNANIMOUS OF THOSE PRESENT

MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2019

Chair Lyne stated that in March, Eric and Will were not in attendance. Chair Lyne called for a motion on the minutes from those who were present.

COMMISSIONER SMITHSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES;
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ARCHBELL. VOTE 3-0 UNANIMOUS OF

THOSE PRESENT

MINUTES OF APRIL 17, 2019

Chair Lyne stated that both Commissioners Foushee and Smithson were not in attendance at the meeting and called for a motion on the minutes from those who were present.

COMMISSIONER WILKOFF MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ARCHBELL. VOTE 3-0 UNANIMOUS OF THOSE PRESENT

2 **CITIZENS INPUT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

3 **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

4 **RECREATION PROGRAM REPORT – TROY SMITH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

Deputy Director Smith presented the monthly recreation program report highlighting the various recreation programs offered by the department. Smith noted that he would be touching base on the spring programs that wrapped up at the end of the school year as the Recreation Commission had not met in the month of June. Smith expressed that he would be presenting a set of programs that are also underway or recently completed as the Recreation Department is the middle of the Summer Season. Smith added that the Recreation Department has been busy since the end of school to offer a variety of day camps including both enrichment and sports based activities. These included;

- Spring Cross Country Running- 47 Participants
- Girls Summer Basketball Camp- 28 Participants
- Boys Summer Basketball Camp- 38 Participants
- Arctic Expedition Lego Camp- 9 Participants
- Girls Softball Clinic- 18 Participants
- Polar Bear Baseball Camp- 32 Participants
- Seaspray Kayaking and SUP- 8 Participants
- Art Camp grades K-9th- 93 Participants
- Kids on the Field (Interdisciplinary Softball/ Baseball/T-ball)- 60 Participants
- Women's Softball League- 3 Teams, 44 Participants
- Youth Track and Field- 45 Participants
- Mad Science- Brixology and Engineering- 18 Participants
- Summer Vacation Camp Session 1- 155 Participants
- Preschool Mini Camp Session 1- 27 Participants
- Golf For Kids- 4 Participants

Smith then summarized the programs that are upcoming for the remainder of the summer and these included;

- Summer Vacation Camp II: 9-4pm, July 22- August 15

- Preschool Mini Camp II: 9-11:30am, July 30- August 15
- Entomology Camp(I Love Bugs): 8:30am-12:30pm, July 22-July 26
- Seacoast Soccer Day Camp: 9-10:30 and 9-12n, Age 4&5 and 6-14, August 5-9
- Youth Field Hockey Clinic- August 5th-9th, Grades K-2 and 3-8, 9-10 and 9-11:30
- Hip Hop Dance- August 5-9th, Ages 6-8 and 9-13, 9-12 and 1-4pm respectively

Deputy Director Smith then segued into discussing the Brunswick Youth Soccer League program which has begun accepting registrations. Smith noted that it is the largest program that the Recreation Department runs in the fall. It includes one practice per week and at least one game on the weekend for grades 2-8th. For the K-1 children, Smith explained that it is a clinic based program that includes just 1 game per week on Saturdays. Smith included in his remarks that the push is for Brunswick residents to sign up early given the need to plan for such a large program, including field reservations, team rosters and program tee-shirt purchases. To that same point, Smith noted that there is an early registration deadline of August 2nd and that includes a \$15 discount that brings the total cost of the program to \$29 per participant. After that date, Smith continued, the cost of the program is \$44 and this program is limited to Brunswick residents only.

Deputy Director Smith then delivered remarks about the Preschool program, noting that as summer is wrapping up for the year, the Brunswick Recreation Department is gearing up for the fall. Smith added that the Recreation department is currently accepting registrations for the 2019-2020 school year. Smith explained that the state licensed program is for 3-5 year olds and is a half day program that focuses on socialization and learning. Smith further explained that anyone who is looking for a preschool program to look into the recreation program which offers a 2, 3 4 or 5 day option from 9:00-11:30am. Deputy Director Smith then encouraged folks to visit our website or come directly to the Recreation Center, where the program is held, to find out more information or to schedule a meeting with the lead teacher.

Deputy Director Smith, continuing to highlight the many programs that the Recreation Department offers, began to focus on Pickleball. Smith explained that Pickleball is a very popular program that is offered twice daily. Smith further explained that Pickleball is also the fastest growing sport in the country. Deputy Director Smith added that we encourage all to try it and the Recreation Center offers an Introduction to Pickleball Clinic on Tuesday nights from 5:30-7pm for a fee of \$12 per class. Smith noted that all equipment necessary to learn or play the sport is provided for both the instructional class and open Pickleball sessions. Deputy Director Smith added that despite the name it is a very popular and fun sport. Smith then highlighted that just today there were 24 adults participating in the open Pickleball sessions throughout the day.

Deputy Director Smith then began discussing the Movies in the Park events that are on-going throughout the summer on the third Thursday of every month. Smith added that this program is run in collaboration with the North Brunswick Neighborhood Association and is held at Nathaniel Davis Park; one of the many great facilities that the Parks and Recreation Department maintains. Smith highlighted that the showing tomorrow, July 18th, will be Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse which is a new movie from 2018. In addition to the film,

Smith mentioned that Taco the Town would be there vending tacos, there will be concessions and Seacoast United will be providing introductory soccer skills before the movie begins at 7pm. Smith then acknowledged the sponsors for Movies in the Park, Coastal Maine Pediatric Dentistry, Martin's Point Health Care, Frontier, Portland Pie Company, Bolo's Kitchen, Lee Auto Mall, Lemongrass, Priority Real Estate, Carrot Signs, RE/MAX Riverside, Edible Arrangements, Vail's Tree Service, the Brunswick Hotel, and the Greater Brunswick Physical Therapy Corp. Smith concluded his remarks by restating the schedule of events for the evening and invited folks to attend the free event, especially if they had not attended in the past.

Chair Lyne thanked Deputy Director Smith before welcoming questions or comments from the other members of the Recreation Commission. Lyne also noted that there are a lot of different programming options currently and mentioned that he is amazed that the event has grown so much in the years that it has been offered.

Additionally, Lyne inquired about the Summer Vacation Day Camp and asked how many children are enrolled in each session. Smith replied that the groups are split in Junior Campers in grades 1- and Senior Campers in grades 4-6 and 155 children were enrolled in Session 1. Smith noted that there are 125 children signed up for the second session, but the expectation is that another 25 or 30 will sign up by the start of the second session. Smith also noted that this program continues to grow and is a great opportunity for kids to stay active and for parents to have an opportunity to secure childcare.

Lyne then inquired how many local youth are employed as counselors in the program. Smith replied that all employed youth are local to the Brunswick area and there are about 18-20 of them currently employed for the summer. Lyne recollected camping with both a camp counselor and a Summer Vacation camper over the weekend and noted that both expressed that they loved the experience. Lyne closed out this portion of the meeting by commending the work that is being done.

Director Farrell provided remarks on the recently completed Trek across Maine and noted that this was the first year that the Trek started in Brunswick and finished in Brunswick after the cyclists made their way to Belfast. Farrell noted that during the debrief session after the event, the Trek organizers indicated that this was the most lucrative event they have held, as they topped the \$2,000,000 mark for the first time this year. Farrell added that they had more participants and more positive commentary about the route of the Trek. Farrell also added that the Trek organizers have already announced that they will be returning to Brunswick in the year 2020. Farrell explained that the Trek organizers are looking to work with the Town of Brunswick and MRRRA to execute a 3-year contract to use the Recreation Department location for the start and finish of the event. Farrell further explained that the Trek occupied the building for 2 full days and two partial days. Additionally, Farrell remarked that this occupation did not have any adverse effects in terms of the public's use of the facility, but also looked to Deputy Director Smith for his impressions on the matter.

Smith agreed, noting that the Recreation Center is closed on the weekends after Memorial

Day so only 1 and ½ days were truly affected by the event. Smith added that they had a lot of volunteers assisting and did a great job getting the facility ready so the event went really well. Farrell affirmed Deputy Director Smith's remarks, noting that the Recreation Department was working with an impressive group of Trek organizers and sub-contractors. Farrell acknowledged one such contractor, Compass Rose, and expressed how impressive it was they were able to feed close to 1800 cyclists and family members who were there to meet them at the end. Farrell explained that this portion of the event was staged in the parking lot and included a huge tent. Farrell further explained that the event was seamless and highlighted that Recreation Center staff was not responsible for anything in terms of helping them set up or break down, noting that the group was highly organized and this event was very professionally done. Farrell continued on to add that they also ran Trek Control Headquarters from the field house as the cyclists made their way to Bates, Colby and back to Brunswick. Farrell summarized that they were able to dispatch assistance to folks in distress right from the Recreation Center. Farrell further summarized that it was impressive in terms of the network of paid organizers and volunteers delivering the event. Farrell concluded that, after speaking with the Town Manager, a proposed contract will be written for the next three years to use the Recreation Center as the beginning and finish point for the event.

Wilkoff remarked that the only wrinkle he observed was that the first day route came up Route 123 from Harpswell, but that it was a commuter morning and there were school buses as well. Wilkoff summarized that these conditions amounted in a rider experience that he would have chosen because, aside from the scenery, it would have been a hairy ride. Wilkoff then affirmed that he heard from folks who participated that the event spoke of how well organized it was and noted that the second day was a tough ride. Farrell affirmed this statement, adding that even veterans of the event found the hills to be worse than any of the previous Trek's they have ridden.

Chair Lyne noted that this weekend was also a busy weekend for Brunswick with the Coastal Soccer Challenge also being held. Director Farrell noted that this was a major concern because riders were coming back into Brunswick using the bike path. Farrell added that at any given time, there could be 4 teams with 2 teams playing and 2 teams who had just finished or may be awaiting their turn. Farrell added that during that time there were a couple police officers on the Bike Path intentionally and there were several volunteers. Farrell concluded that in conjunction with folks also launching boats from the boat launch, it all went very well and there were a lot of volunteers to help with the people coming and going from that congested area. Farrell further concluded that there weren't any issues and this event was very well done.

5 **OLD BUSINESS**

5a **UPDATE ON THE SMOKE FREE ORDINANCE DRAFT**

Director Farrell's prefaced his remarks by stating that this would have been a major topic addressed at the June meeting of the Recreation Commission, but that meeting did not occur. Farrell reminded the Recreation Commission that the Smoke-free Ordinance has been before the Recreation Commission a couple times over the winter and spring and then added that, since the last meeting, the ordinance went before the Town Council. Farrell also

added that this ordinance went to public hearing on July 6th and the Town Council approved the ordinance as it was drafted.

Director Farrell then explained that there were several elements to this ordinance and it changes what was a Smoke-Free resolution, which didn't have much teeth to it in terms of enforceability, to an ordinance. Additionally, Farrell noted that it precludes smoking at all Town of Brunswick facilities as well as within a 20ft. radius around those facilities and this includes adjacent sidewalks. Farrell then reminded the Recreation Commission that the Mall and the Music on the Mall event series is really what generated that interest on the part of the Brunswick Downtown Association as people would just move to the adjoining sidewalks, but that didn't really cure the problem so this ordinance will. Farrell continued his remarks noting that all public school bus stops that are not on private property are all ordinances as non-smoking stops, as well as all public transit stops, including The Breeze, and all of these stops will be signed as no smoking. Farrell added that the other key piece of this ordinance is no smoking on Maine Street, from First Parish Church to the Androscoggin River, between the hours of 7am and 7pm daily. The ordinance goes into effect on August 6th, Farrell added, since there is a 30-day window from the time that the Town Council adopts the ordinance to the time that it goes into effect.

Director Farrell also added that one thing being worked on with Midcoast Hospital, one of the collaborators that brought this ordinance to the Recreation Commission, is acquiring signage for all of the Town of Brunswick's facilities so that 50 facilities will have signage at key entrance points that indicate that it is a tobacco-free facility. The Town of Brunswick is now working with the Brunswick Downtown Association, Farrell mentioned, to determine the appropriate types of signs for Maine Street, as well as their location. Additionally, Farrell mentioned, one issue that remains is how the school department will sign the bus stops, ultimately identifying that is issue still unclear, but there is still time as school starts in September.

Director Farrell concluded that all in all, the collaborative partners behind this effort were very pleased with the outcome, it will go into effect in August, and we will see how it works when it starts to be enforced. Farrell then restated that the exact date that the process will be complete is August 6th.

Commissioner Archbell then stated that she believed the initial meeting was on July 1st and inquired if the effective date would then be July 31st, as that would be the 30 day window that Director Farrell mentioned earlier in the meeting. Farrell noted that he had recently looked that information up and clarified that the ordinance goes into effect 30 days from when the Town Council took action and stated that if the action was taken on July 1st then the ordinance would go into effect on July 31st.

5b **THE CONTINUING PROCESS TO DETERMINE RELOCATION OF THE BRUNSWICK FARMERS MARKET FROM ITS CURRENT LOCATION ON THE NORTHERLY END OF THE MALL TO AN ALTERNATE LOCATION**

Director Farrell stated that his remarks would be brief before reminding the commission about the previous meetings where different schemes and potential locations where the

Farmers Market might be able to move to were shown, as well as a matrix of all the locations that were analyzed to determine if the market could go in certain locations in the downtown on side streets. Farrell explained that the process has reached a point where the Town Manager wants the results of that work to be taken to a public meeting so all of the property abutters or property owners around the Lower Mall received a notice last week stating that a public meeting will be held in Town Council Chambers on July 25th at 7pm. Farrell further explained that abutters and the general public are invited to attend a PowerPoint presentation that ties in all the work that has been done and then the meeting will be opened up for reactions, input, and suggestions.

Farrell then reminded the Recreation Commission of previous conversations about the reality that there is no one solution that is going to resonate with all of the stakeholders. Farrell, acknowledging again that there is no easy solution to this problem, explained that this is the reason why the Town Manager is eager to involve all of the more directly impacted, which are the abutters around the Lower Mall, but the greater public as well.

Next, Director Farrell highlighted that this year was a really difficult spring and summer and the decision was made to keep the Farmers Market on the northern end of the Mall. Farrell noted that as a result there is little to no grass there now and it is a hardscape due to the compaction. Additionally, Farrell noted that this decision was made knowing that the Veterans Memorial project was on the horizon and the supposition was that they could remain there for one more year. At the close of this season, Farrell stated, the Town of Brunswick would then move them off that location and re-sod that whole area when the plaza gets built. Farrell presented one problem that was not anticipated and that was the amount of rain in the spring. The area without any grass, Farrell continued on to state, then turns in an ornery looking location between standing water and slick surfaces.

Additionally, Farrell highlighted that the Town of Brunswick has already moved some of the vendors from the sites they were in where it was the worst and moved them to the western side of the Mall where the food vendors are. In the spaces where the surfaces were most slick and puddled, Farrell continued, those vendors have been moved to higher ground as an interim solution. However, Farrell explained, a number of people from the community have expressed that the existing conditions right now are not ideal and want something done. Farrell highlighted that these concerns have also been exacerbated by the rain. Farrell ultimately named that in a normal season there would not have been as many issues with the public being frustrated that conditions haven't been ideal.

Farrell concluded that the Town of Brunswick is aware that this is an issue and are trying to work through the problem and named that this is what the meeting on the 25th of July is all about. Farrell continued to summarize that it is an opportunity for the public to see what the Town of Brunswick has for options, to give their feedback about those locations in return, to give general feedback about what their experience has been, and to share what they think the Town of Brunswick should or shouldn't do and haven't considered yet. Farrell then restated that the meeting is at 7pm on July 25th and it will be located in the Town Council Chambers.

Chair Lyne followed up Director Farrell's remarks by inquiring if the farmers have a location that they would prefer to be. Farrell replied that he thinks the farmers would like to remain on the Mall. Farrell added that there are 3 or 4 locations that are possibilities, which have been shared with the Recreation Commission and they have their pluses and minuses. Farrell restated that ideally they would like to stay on the Mall, but the issue is that the market has grown tremendously and having vehicles on the Mall is not something conducive to being able to maintain the turf as everyone wants the Town of Brunswick to do. Farrell provided an example of one solution which is to keep the market off the mall for one month in the spring and re-sodding the whole area annually, but, Farrell noted, there would need to be another location for them to be for the month. Farrell explained that they have discussed locating them along Park Row during that month, having them located along Park Row for the length of the season by shutting down one lane of traffic, widening the sidewalks adjacent to the Mall to allow them to drive onto a hard surface to unload their produce, but the vendors still have a desire for their vehicles to be co-located where their display area is.

Farrell ultimately summarized that it is clear that the Farmers Market would like to stay on the mall before emphasizing that this is not going to be an easy solution and accentuating that the Town of Brunswick welcomes the public's attendance at this meeting on July 25th.

Launch

6 **NEW BUSINESS**

6a **LANDING COMMUNITY CENTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Chair Lyne welcomed Director Farrell to introduce this topic and Farrell prefaced his subsequent remarks by adding that he would be sharing the history of how this evolved. Farrell reminded Recreation Commissioners who were active at the time that the Town of Brunswick went through the process where the Town Council authorized the Parks Department to use money from the Special Revenue Fund to contract with an architect to look at the possibility of a new outdoor swimming facility for Brunswick. This contract was executed with Bargmann-Hendrie Associates out of Boston, Director Farrell explained, and they have done projects including outdoor and indoor aquatics facilities throughout Maine and the Northeast U.S. The results of the report, Farrell continued to explain, was reported that back to the Town Council Finance Sub-Committee a couple years ago and it showed that there was pretty strong support on the part of those surveyed in the Town of Brunswick for such a facility to be located adjacent to the Recreation Center at Brunswick Landing.

Prior to that, Director Farrell noted, there was another initiative that the Town Council authorized to move forward. A non-profit (at the time called) Community Ice, Director Farrell added, came forward and asked the Town Council if they would be amenable to citing an indoor ice arena on property that was going to be conveyed to the Town of Brunswick. Farrell continued on to add that the Town Council at that time felt strongly that this was something they wanted to support and that was the undertaking of a feasibility study by this separate entity. Since that time, Farrell noted, the organization has changed its structure and, while Community Ice does not exist today, Midcoast Youth Hockey Association took over this role after the feasibility study was completed. Farrell mentioned

that the Midcoast Youth Hockey Association appeared with the Recreation Commission when the findings of the aquatic study were presented and the appeared before the Town Council Finance sub-committee of the Town Council to explain where their rink project was. Without going into too much detail, Farrell also mentioned that on that day the Town Council Sub Committee encouraged both groups, the Recreation Commission as it pertained to the aquatic facility and Midcoast Youth Hockey as it pertained to the rink to understand that the ability for the Town to fund either one of these projects, seeing that they both came in well over \$1,000,000 million of dollars, would be heavily reliant on the ability of these group to find money on the outside of the local tax revenues. Both entities, Director Farrell explained, were encouraged to work together to come up with a plan to see if either one or potentially both of these facilities built at that location without a reliance on a major bond that the Town of Brunswick would have to float to pay the lion's share of these costs.

Farrell, before giving the floor to Chair Lyne, summarized that these prior events are what led to the Recreation Commission reaching out and looking to other collaborative partners and that has in turn led to the Memorandum of Understanding or MOU that was included in the Commissioner's packets. Farrell explained that this MOU would formalize a group that has been meeting informally to try to meet the goal of figuring out a way to finance a major regional recreation facility with several different components to include a pool, an ice rink, and other components and it would be located immediately adjacent to the Recreation Center on land that the Navy has yet to convey to the Town of Brunswick.

Chair Lyne followed up these remarks by noting that this discussion is surrounding an approximately 10 acre parcel of land adjacent to the Recreation Center. Lyne also noted that for those who are gym rats or coaches and have driven by the piece of land, one can only dream about the potential for that land because it is so nice and flat. Lyne noted that it is not as simple as just mowing the grass because of who owns it and the nature of the soils currently and historically.

Lyne continued on to note that coming out of this Finance Committee recommendation, where the Recreation Commission was given approval to go and work with Community Ice or Midcoast Youth Hockey Association, was a lot of advice from the development world to broaden the search and make this a bigger fundraising effort than for just a pool or just for a rink and to instead start looking at this as a regional community and economic development fundraising effort for a regional community center.

Lyne then explained that the process has taken a couple years and has included informal monthly meetings, other communities and organizations, including Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCAs, have been reached out to and the overwhelming response was to make it as much of a collaborative effort as possible. Lyne continued to explain that a few board members from the Bath YMCA were also included in this conversation to see what their level of interest would be and two of the board members have joined the steering committee. Lyne clarified that this is what he would call the group because they are unofficially organized as a committee to talk about this topic, but the group numbers 10 members. Lyne then introduced the members of this informal committee naming himself,

Commissioner Archbell, Parks and Recreation Director Tom Farrell, Economic Development Director Linda Smith, Steve Levesque and Christine Logan from Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority (MRRA), Scott Mills and Irl Rosner from the Bath YMCA Board of Directors, Angela Twitchell from Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust and Tim Ryan, the Athletic Director from Bowdoin College, who has been incredibly helpful in lending his advice and expertise with athletic facilities in general. Lyne continued his remarks, adding that there is a license agreement with the Town of Brunswick to manage the property and mentioned a concession agreement with the Land Trust. Lyne, unsure if his use of terminology was correct, looked to Director Farrell to confirm if he used the correct language.

Director Farrell clarified that on the land where the Neptune Woods trail system is, across from the Coastal Landing, there originally was going to be an agreement between the Town of Brunswick and the Land Trust for the Land Trust to manage trails on that property, but ultimately MRRA ended up conveying the land directly to the Land Trust. Lyne noted that the Land Trust totally controls those trails which are being developed as bike trails. Lyne added that the Town of Brunswick has their own trails on the Brunswick Landing and the Golf Course, the Land Trust is developing bike trails, the YMCA is fundraising in an effort to add to their facility and the Brunswick Recreation Department also has programs well-established now so it makes sense to have this be a collaborative effort and talk together about what could be out there. Lyne stated that there needs to be standing in order to have those talks before explaining that the MOU in the packet this evening is what will be asked of the Town Council. Lyne continued to state that the YMCA will have their own internal action and MRRA has offered to use their non-profit arm as the fiduciary agent once the process moved towards raising funds because this committee is not organizing as a non-profit currently.

Chair Lyne, referencing notes in front of him, mentioned Dana Totman who is considered an at large member. Lyne continued to add that he does not live here anymore, but has been heavily involved in youth sports in Brunswick and around the State of Maine and is a smart development brain at the table. Lyne summarized that the process has gotten to the point where there has to be some sort of standing and everyone needs to be aware that there is a group officially working together. The next steps, Lyne added, if the Town Council approves this concept, is to begin a modest fundraising effort to look at master planning and site design, as well as studying bigger issues including other recreational pieces that could be added to the project. Chair Lyne then spoke of the many conversations of this sort that have happened, including turf fields and the need for them locally. Lyne concluded that there is space for that and this project is an appealing notion especially if the complex had a rink, pool, and fields where there is already substantial parking space already built into that area. Chair Lyne further concluded that this project will really capitalize on assets already available at the location before opening up the discussion to welcome questions or comments from those in attendance. Lyne's final remark to this point was that a motion is needed to move this and to make a recommendation to the Brunswick Town Council that they consider the MOU.

Commissioner Wilkoff asserted his supposition that there must have been discussions,

without numbers, which would argue that some economies of scale by shared energy sources is a selling point for this project. Lyne agreed that the assumption is it probably would be a selling point, but that no official studies have been done; rather it is based on the personal experience of those who have gathered for these discussions and have built things. Lyne continued to state that the location of the site also makes this a no-brainer, whether it be sharing restrooms with the pool and Recreation Center or sharing facilities between a pool and a rink, but definitely sharing in the parking spaces. Lyne then stated that these would be things to look into, but the process is not there yet.

Commission Foushee inquired of Chair Lyne if the MOU is written so that other entities could be added. Lyne noted that this was a good point made by Foushee and noted that this can get a little awkward because it feels like the Town Council is being asked to approve a committee or to approve ourselves. Lyne continued on to add that the door is open, but there was a unanimous agreement that, for this to be a greater fundraising effort, it would need to be a regional effort and other Brunswick area community members need to be welcomed. Lyne highlighted that there are all Brunswick folks on the committee now and the Town of Brunswick would be remiss to not invite smaller towns, like Bath and Topsham. Chair Lyne hypothesized that some of the other entities that are signing the MOU might like to make recommendations for others who may want to join the committee and the committee would be open to that as well.

Foushee followed up Chair Lyne's reply noting that the discussion of field space reminded him of the partnership that already exists between the Town of Brunswick and Seacoast United. Foushee, acknowledged that they are a private entity, but theorized that they may be interested in developing the property. Chair Lyne noted that there are models out there, like the private model, but the consensus is that this will be a community facility rather than a for-profit venture as this project cannot be a for-profit venture because it would require a whole different conveyance from MRRA. This land, Lyne explained, has to be used for public recreation in perpetuity per their plan, but it does not preclude a private entity from using the space.

Director Farrell supported Chair Lyne's remarks about the conditions of the conveyance and noted that this is a big point that has been talked about. Farrell then explained that there is very restrictive language in terms of the conveyance document, making note of the fact that the Town of Brunswick has yet to receive the draft of the deed. Farrell continued to explain that the committee believes that such a project is going to take more than just the Recreation Commission and the Town Council to be able to bring this vision to fruition. Farrell added that these conveyances are made with the intent to put these public lands back into use in a positive way. Farrell, acknowledging that the committee is fairly uncertain in the area, explained that they will discuss with the Town Council if this proposal can be structured in a way that meets the conveyance restrictions. Farrell clarified this statement adding that the committee is aware that no part of the property may be sublet to any other entity or sell any part of it to any other entity, but could enter what is called a concessionaire agreement in terms of the additional partners. Farrell continued to describe a sample concessionaire agreement, which the committee has been referencing, and this document was used in other Naval Base closures within communities.

One of the first orders of business if the Town Council authorizes this project to move forward, Director Farrell stated, is to get the National Parks Service representative to come and meet with the group at the site to talk through the vision and the benefits of the collaborative partnership in order to deliver on building a very meaningful, high use, high quality, multi-faceted recreation facility that will have regional implications and benefits. On the contrary, Farrell admitted, this land could be transferred to the Town of Brunswick and then sit fallow as has happened in many communities around the country because no one entity has the financial capability to get facilities financed. Farrell restated that it is the intent of the group to do this first if the Town Council looks favorably on authorizing entrance into the agreement.

Chair Lyne followed up Director Farrell's remarks and stressed that the time feels right and there has been some indication from the Navy that their environmental studies underway at the site would be concluding in the coming falls season. Lyne added that there is reason to believe, whether this belief is ambitious or not based on falsehoods in the past, that the conveyance process could begin at the beginning of the New Year and it will be good for the committee to get out in front of that conveyance. Lyne made note of the fact that this conveyance has been bumped back a number of times, but all indications now suggest that the conveyance is getting closer and closer. Lyne continued on to note that the committee is unaware of whether or not the efforts of the committee have expedited this process, but this is welcomed news and reason enough to start digging in on planning efforts.

Commissioner Wilkoff then suggested that he could initial a motion so long as he had support with the correct language to use in making this motion. Wilkoff stated that it was his understanding that the motion was to suggest that the Town Councilors support the MOU as it is written. Chair Lyne affirmed that Wilkoff's statement was correct, but acknowledged that he has more formal language he could use and would like Wilkoff to respond to that request. Lyne continued on to read that a motion is sought recommending that the Brunswick Town Council consider the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Brunswick, the Bath Area Family YMCA, Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, and the Midcoast Youth Hockey League to plan for the development of a community recreation area on the land adjacent to the Recreation Center at Brunswick Landing, while recognizing the Landing Community Center Committee as the facilitator of said efforts.

CHAIR LYNE MOVED THAT THE RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMEND THAT THE BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL CONSIDER THE PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK, BATH AREA FAMILY YMCA, MIDCOAST REGIONAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND MIDCOAST YOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE TO PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY RECREATION AREA ON THE LAND ADJACENT TO THE RECREATION CENTER AT BRUNSWICK LANDING, WHILE RECOGNIZING THE LANDING COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE AS THE FACILITATOR OF SAID EFFORTS; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WEAVER, VOTE 5-0 UNANIMOUS OF THOSE PRESENT.

Director Farrell followed up this motion by explaining to the Recreation Commission what the schedule of the process would be. Farrell highlighted that the reasonable next step would be delivering the request in writing to the Town Manager for the Town Council's consideration. Depending upon what the Town Council has on its agenda, Farrell continued to explain, this topic could potentially go before the Town Council during the first week in August.

Chair Lyne acknowledged Director Farrell clarifying points and noted that he would be happy to be in attendance at that meeting. Chair Lyne also noted that it would be beneficial for Director Farrell to be in attendance as well in order to speak more about the Park Service role and to speak more about the conveyance process. Commissioner Foushee inquired if the conveyance, if this is approved, would be the first hurdle and then the master planning process would be discussed. Chair Lyne responded that there are many ideas about what different folks would like to do, as far as site planning and developing plans. The first move, Lyne continued on to note is to get in touch with the Parks Service to start conversations and get them involved as a partner in this venture so they may guide this process and make the committee aware of any pitfalls upfront. Lyne added to these remarks that there is already a firm understanding of the reading on the soils, but what can be done with this land operationally in the future is to be determined by the Parks Service. Lyne then restated that this is the first thing that would happen in the fall. Lyne also noted that meetings will resume in the coming months, as they have taken some time off, and talks can begin with regard to how to begin raising money for the master planning effort.

6b

UPDATE ON THE COFFIN POND CLOSURE

Director Farrell introduced this topic by first reminding the Recreation Commission that he will be referencing documents that were included in the Commissioners' packets for the June Recreation Commission meeting. Farrell recognized the efforts of Parks and Recreation staff and acknowledged that these documents are representative of all the work completed by staff members including Deputy Director Troy Smith, Program Assistant Aaron Copley, and Maddy Hicks, the new Administrative Program Registrar. Farrell then explained that Maddy Hicks was the Waterfront Director at Coffin Pond for several years and brought a very valuable perspective to this.

Farrell dove into discussing the contents of the packet, highlighting that one such document listed all of the contacts that were made in an effort to try hire a staff so that Coffin Pond would be opened another year. Director Farrell expressed that these efforts were ultimately unsuccessful, as this shortage is both a state-wide and nation-wide issue that everyone is struggling with. Once this information went into the newspaper, Farrell stated, it became a very popular topic for about a week and the Town of Brunswick was featured on the television a few times. Farrell then reiterated that this is not an issue that is unique to the Town of Brunswick.

The challenges that the Recreation Department has become aware of in response to this action, Director Farrell explained, could be better defined by Deputy Director Smith, but in general they included commentary from the general public. The information was disseminated in many ways, but on the Facebook social media platform there were a

significant number of comments made with respect to the Parks and Recreation Department's inability to staff Coffin Pond in order to be able to open it. Farrell continued on to explain that folks were very disappointed and, given the 90+ degree weather this summer, people will be even more frustrated that it is not open.

Based on the most recent discussion he had with a TV network, Director Farrell added that the question remains about what is going to be done in the future. Farrell, in an effort to ensure that everyone has a common understanding, continued on to add that a previous Recreation Commission voted to keep Coffin Pond open as long as possible until transitioning to a new outdoor facility. Farrell explained that although it did not open for the Summer of 2019, it was the desire to remain open. Director Farrell continued to explain that he has told those who have asked that the intention is to try and work on this issue over the coming months so that it could potentially reopen for the summer of 2020. Saying this publically and speaking about it as a staff, Farrell noted, it is important that the Recreation Department has the support of the Recreation Commission in order to do that. The reason behind this, Farrell continued to note, is the aspiration to initiate a group of both indoor and outdoor aquatic facility operators in the area to try and strategize how we can increase the number of people enrolling in certification classes so that there is a bigger pool of candidates next year. These are operators who have already been spoken with this year, Farrell also noted, and have expressed the same issues. Director Farrell explained that there are a lot of ways that the Recreation Department would like to achieve this, including incentivizing people by paying for their certification fees. Farrell provided this example and named this specific action as one extent that the Recreation Department went to just last year to keep the Pond open for the 2018 season.

Director Farrell concluded that he wants the public to know what it's going to take in order to open next year. Farrell then detailed how the facilities that are operational made incredibly large increases in the hourly wage of lifeguards. Farrell continued on to note that those who have certifications can basically work anywhere they please and determine which rate they would like to work at. Anecdotally, Farrell added that he was made aware of some facilities that lost their staff because they sought positions at higher paying locations. One thing to be mindful of, Farrell added, is that the Town of Brunswick has been paying just over minimum wage for a lifeguard with a new certification and no experience and the Waterfront Director, someone with a lot of past experience and that manages that waterfront staff, is getting paid between \$13 and \$14 an hour. Farrell continued on to add that he has been made aware that first time lifeguards are now getting paid as much as \$16 per hour because everyone has had to increase their rates in order to fill out their staff. What that would mean for the Parks and Recreation Department is a staff of six guards with an hourly rate of \$15-\$16 dollars per hour and up to \$18 an hour for the Waterfront Director, Farrell summarized. Adding to these remarks, Farrell further summarized that, at those wage rates, Coffin Pond currently operates at a \$20,000 short fall every year that it has been subsidized by the Special Revenue Fund. Farrell reminded the Recreation Commission that this was a conscious decision made to keep Coffin Pond in operation for the community, but given that wages will have to increase at such a rate, there will be corresponding increases in the daily fees and family pass fees that people traditionally paid in order to go throughout the summer. Farrell then stressed that

increasing these fees is how Recreation Department staff have suggested attacking this problem rather than subsidizing Coffin Pond at a significantly higher number. Farrell acknowledged what he called “a magical dance” that is done with all programming where a tipping point must be identified as the fees become too high, people stop coming and folks choose to patronize other facilities. Farrell also acknowledged that the answer to this question is unknown, but staff will work on solving this problem unless the Recreation Commission has a strong feeling that staff should be thinking differently about this issue.

Farrell highlighted his view, as Parks and Recreation Director, that this facilities serves a need in the community, there have certainly been a lot of people who have expressed dissatisfaction with the fact that it is not opening again, it caters to families with young children rather than junior high school kids and the facilities is designed with a shallow water entry and waterslide. Farrell added that the overall feeling is that the Recreation Department should proceed with the intention to put together a plan to re-open for the 2020 season, but if this happens, the Recreation Department will be coming to the Recreation Commission with some decision points to be made. Farrell then provided examples of this, like determining how much fees will increase, determining higher pay rates, and coming up with a plan to encourage more people to become certified.

Director Farrell then detailed what he said to the media when they asked him how this would happen. Farrell began by noting that there are a lot of deterrents to becoming certified, like the \$300-\$500 fee to take the course with no guarantee of passing the certification class, leaving candidates without \$300-\$500 if they fail the class. It’s hard, Farrell stressed, for a high school kid to come up with that money to take the class so the incentive of paying for them to take the certification class is something that will be looked into. The other issue, Farrell identified, is that the younger workforce is not coming out in terms of applying for all summer jobs. Farrell provided the specific example of Deputy Director Smith’s in ability to fill all of his staffing positons for Summer Vacation Camp, but in years past there were always a good number of applicants that the Parks and Recreation Department could not provide a job for.

Farrell returned to his initial point of informing the Recreation Commission about his comments to the media and outlined that his response included looking to retired people to fill these positions. Farrell clarified that retired people who had been strong swimmers and still swim might be willing to get a certification and get paid to give back to the community, even if they commit to working one or two days per week. Farrell concluded that these types of out-of-the-box options must be considered because everyone who is operating an aquatic facility is having this same problem and it is not unique to the Town of Brunswick. Farrell added that one additional question asked via the media and Facebook postings was the reason behind why the Town of Brunswick is not following suit with other facilities who have gone with a swim at your own risk. Farrell restated that the reason behind this is that Coffin Pond is primarily catering to young children that are non-swimmers to begin with, it has no filtration system making water clarity poor, and turbidity is a challenge as it is not like a traditional pool. Farrell concluded that for these reasons and to air on the side of public safety, the decision has been made to not open the facility unless there are qualified guards there. Alternatively, Farrell highlighted that the State Parks have

signed the beaches as swim at your own risk, but this is not an option for Coffin Pond so it was closed.

Farrell then welcomed the Recreation Commission to provide feedback with regard to strong objections to the Recreation Department working on this problem with the intention to try and get the Pond open for the summer of 2020. Commissioner Foushee responded that he does not have any strong objections to doing that, but added that his support would stop at funding it beyond a greater level than the Special Revenue Fund. Foushee continued on to add that Coffin Pond is already operating at a loss now and to increase the negative impact on the Special Revenue budget is something that would require a lot more discussion. Additionally, Foushee mentioned that he is curious what the budget savings from not opening the Pond this year have been and, if that budget savings could be rolled forward, that might provide additional funding to pay for lifeguard certification and pay higher wages for lifeguards in the next year if it is amenable by the Town of Brunswick.

Director Farrell followed up Foushee's remarks by informing the Recreation Commission that the Special Revenue Fund, where the Coffin Pond funding is housed, does carry over from year to year meaning that the money does not lapse like it does in the General Fund Appropriated Accounts and would be available. Chair Lyne added that in the interest of creative planning, it might be a good idea to not rule out off-duty fire fighters when considering how to build the workforce. Lyne acknowledged that this would likely bump the rate of pay up again, but there would also be a pretty qualified staff at that point. Chair Lyne also stated that he had questions about the facility mechanically, and, highlighting that there have been issues in the past, questioned whether or not there were concerns about reopening it after having it remain dormant for the season.

Director Farrell confirmed that this is a concern as it is not good for the system to not be started back up even though it gets winterized at closing time each year. Farrell then mentioned that he has not spoken with the staff about this specifically, but thinks it would be a good idea to allow the Pond to recharge in the fall since all of the water was drained from the Pond for the summer season after people were jumping the fence and going into the Pond even though the facility was closed. Farrell restated his intention to allow the Pond to refill, to start the system back up, and to make sure that it doesn't seize up. Farrell added to these remarks that the chlorine is very hard on the pump system so it will likely need to be greased before being put to bed for the winter. Farrell acknowledged again that he had not yet spoken to the staff about this issue, but believed that this will likely be the course of action as a safety measure and to ensure that the system doesn't fail as a result of it being dormant for so long.

Commissioner Foushee commented in return that if there were additional mechanical problems, it would add a whole different layer of complexity to the problem of re-opening the pond. Farrell refuted Commissioner Foushee's comment stating that these issues will be reported back to the Recreation Commission as things unfold with regard to the success of recharging the system. Farrell continued on to state that it is his belief that this topic will be on the agenda at every couple of meetings to provide updates as it relates to the Pond.

Commissioner Archbell offered her opinion that the summer of 2019 is not the time to decide that great efforts to open should not be taken, rather the cost and benefits of such actions need to be weighed. Chair Lyne agreed, adding that he would not like to see this problem get worse fiscally than it already is, but, if fees can be increased and more people can be trained, it is worth looking at because it is a great resource for that population with small kids.

Director Farrell then welcomed Deputy Director Smith to provide remarks with regard to the work that he did with Summer Vacation Camp since the camp has historically been so reliant on Coffin Pond. Smith acknowledged that the challenges faced this summer were known to senior staff, but the hiring process moved forward, including the hiring of gate and concessions staff, as if the Pond would open for the summer. Smith added that those staff members were relocated to other programs. In terms of the camp, Smith highlighted that they rely heavily on the Pond for swimming each week and have sought other alternatives since the closure of Coffin Pond. Smith recognized Jonathan Fisk, the Director of the Summer Vacation Camp, for reaching out to different parks to inquire about their ability to find qualified guards and reaching out to different facilities to go to, like Thomas Point Beach. Additionally, Smith noted that the lifeguards who had applied to Coffin Pond or expressed an interest in even part time work were offered hours lifeguarding on the swimming field trips so that there would be an extra set of eyes on the campers. Finally, Smith added that adjustments have been made to the safety guidelines counselors follow with regard to creating human barriers in the water so that children are not swimming beyond the staff in deep water.

Smith summarized that the adjustments made to Summer Camp speak to what the Recreation Department is doing in response to this issue. Smith, noting that in the summer it is very hot and kids want to swim, mentioned that the camp has also implemented a number of water activities, like a slip n' slide to try to combat the heat as well, but Coffin Pond was a very important facility for the Summer Vacation Camp.

Chair Lyne inquired where the campers were going to swim weekly and asked specifically if they are swimming at White's Beach. Deputy Director Smith informed the Recreation Commission that they have swam at White's Beach, in addition to Thomas Point Beach, Reid State Park, and Sebago Lake, with the goal of getting them swimming at least once or twice per week. Smith explained to the Commission that there is a junior camp of first through third graders and a separate senior camp for fourth through sixth graders who swim on different days in order to relieve the potential stress on the facility. Smith concluded that these are the measures that were taken this year and make note of the fact that Bowdoin College has major renovations going on there so it hasn't allowed that facility to be used either.

As a former Lifeguard and Aquatics Director, Wilkoff replied that looking to older adult populations for these roles makes sense. Wilkoff also added that he is curious what the minimum requirement would be for a facility like Coffin Pond. Wilkoff hypothesized using one lifeguard at Coffin Pond for example and rounding out the staff with extenders or people who are observers, who can swim and know CPR, but aren't necessarily

knowledgeable in the hold, releases, and carries necessary to rescue a swimmer.

Director Farrell responded to Commissioner Wilkoff's suggestion by informing the Recreation Commission of the steps taken by the waterfront staff at the beginning of the summer to train all of the Vacation Camp staff in the techniques necessary to assist in the event of an emergency. In addition to that, Farrell explained that it is the staff's duty to be in the water when the children are swimming to create a perimeter or to control the slide traffic at the top and the bottom. To that point, Farrell agreed with Wilkoff's theory for remediation, but also acknowledged that at any open hour there cannot be less than 3 lifeguards at Coffin Pond because of the different areas within the Pond. Farrell walked back that initial statement and said that they actually could operate with two lifeguards, but that there would be a section of the Pond that would have to be closed down and the public confined to certain areas because some are deep or shallow and one person cannot surveil the entire area. This would include volunteers, Farrell added, noting that the insurance company for the Town of Brunswick wants us to have a certain number of lifeguards based on the type of facility that we have.

Commissioner Weaver inquired of Director Farrell where lifeguard certification classes are offered. Director Farrell responded that there are typically a number of offerings in our area including the Bath YMCA and Freeport YMCA. Farrell continued on to state that, at any given time, you can look at the American Red Cross website and they list offerings for all of the Red Cross Lifeguard trainings. Farrell explained that when the staff began looking into lifeguard trainings, the majority of them were held at ponds, like Range Pond and Sebago Lake so they typically get offered in the May timeframe because they know that's when the jobs are going to become available. Farrell continued to explain that the Bath YMCA actually runs these trainings year-round and does a really good job, but they also have the benefit of a pool and a swim team that is over 150 athletes strong. Director Smith agreed with Farrell and his assertion that the Bath YMCA offers the majority of the classes, but also added that he was aware that the Wiscasset Community Center also offers classes. Director Farrell established that he should be aware of the answer, but does not know if Brad at Bowdoin College offers lifeguard training for the swim team because Bowdoin does have a swim team. Commissioner Weaver agreed that she is unaware of that answer, but is trying to think of creative solutions like Brunswick High School students taking the course so close to home.

7 OTHER BUSINESS

Lyne established before asking that he was not looking to blindside Director Farrell with a question he might not have the answer to, but asked if there was an update to the progress of the Track construction. Director Farrell stated that he could only say anecdotally that the project is underway and looked to Deputy Director Smith to confirm this. Smith agreed that the work is underway, as he witnessed when going to the high school for summer programming, but noted that he cannot speak to the specific progress made. Smith added that there is a lot of heavy machinery there, but the track itself is still intact and they have been working more on the throwing and jumping areas first. Director Farrell informed the Recreation Commission that he met with the Athletic Director and the Head of the Grounds for Brunswick High School about one month ago as they are looking for other venues for

fall sports because the track will not be completed in time for the start of the fall sports season. Smith confirmed that the timeline for the track online shows that the work deadline is October 12th.

Chair Lyne then segued into another piece of other business he knew that Director Farrell wanted to mention at the meeting. Farrell, acknowledging that he doesn't know as much about this topic as he should, mentioned that he received an email from Lee Cataldo at the Brunswick- Topsham Land Trust and this letter mentioned an initiative and a proposed piece of legislation that will be introduced. This legislation, sponsored by a few State of Maine legislators, is going to be introduced in the fall and will then go to hearing Farrell explained. Farrell further explained that this legislation seeks for the Maine DOT pay for the construction costs of the Merrymeeting Trail, which is a corridor from an abandoned rail line that goes from Topsham to Gardiner. Several of the municipalities that this corridor intersects, Farrell added, have been working together to find a way to get that rail line converted to a bike and pedestrian trail. Additionally, Director Farrell noted that he is aware that this proposal has progressed to the point where there is a board of overseers comprised of governing bodies, boards of selectmen, and town councils from interesting towns and these towns have executed a co-local agreement to all work together to get the trail built.

Director Farrell then explained that he has been asked if, by October 1st, the Town of Brunswick could provide a letter of support to this project. Director Farrell informed the Recreation Commission that he responded to Lee Cataldo explaining that to get a letter of support on this particular topic, it would be best to approach the Bike-Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the Recreation Commission and deliver a presentation to the groups in their respective meetings about the Merrymeeting Trail, those stakeholders involved, the factual information surrounding the proposed legislation, the sponsors, and why the Town of Brunswick, who wouldn't be the recipient of any trail as a result of this legislation, would want to support this effort. It is important that this trail connects to Brunswick, Farrell remarked, because the beginning of the Merrymeeting Trail would start at the end of the Androscoggin Bike Path as it goes over the bridge to Topsham. Farrell continued on to note there has been a feasibility study conducted to take the Androscoggin Bike Path to Bath and that was funded with MaineDOT monies. Furthermore, Farrell noted that in the trail community, this connection between the Merrymeeting trail and the Androscoggin Bike Path is called the Capital to the Coast Trail by advocated. Farrell explained that if this Merrymeeting Trail is built and the Bike Path is taken to Bath, as was laid out in the feasibility study, this would be the Capital to the Coast trail in its entirety. The benefit if the connection is made would be that the project to extend the trail to Bath would be that much more appealing to funding agencies.

Farrell summarized that he put this topic under other business because he has not gotten a commitment from this group, but they are aware that if they want this topic to go before Town Council, as they would sign the letter of support and not the Recreation Commission or the Bike-Ped Advisory Committee, they should appear before both groups in August and, if both were amendable, we would make a joint recommendation to have this go on a Town Council agenda for early September. The Town Council, Farrell clarified, would

then deliberate on whether they would author or authorize the Town Manager to send a letter of support from the Town of Brunswick.

Farrell restated that he is simply providing an update here and it may or may not be forthcoming because a definitive answer did not come back. Farrell added that he did receive a response from Lee, but in the response she indicated that she would have to get back to those involved in the project to see if that is a direction they would like to take. Commissioner Foushee followed up these remarks by inquiring if this is in an effort to draft a bill and Director Farrell confirmed that the bill would be going to legislature. Foushee followed up his initial inquiry by inquiring if it were possible for the Recreation Commission to amend that bill to include the feasibility study that was already completed and to then get Bath and Brunswick support for it, making it a larger bill that could be done in two phases.

Director Farrell commended Commissioner Foushee for asking such great questions. Foushee asserted that if he were to be in support of their project, he would want it to be in support of the whole project, especially if the Town of Brunswick is already sitting on a feasibility study with the same entity. Foushee recommended involving State of Maine representatives to assist in this effort. Farrell then inquired of the Recreation Commission if they would be interested in Director Farrell suggesting what had been discussed at the Recreation Commission meeting presently. Chair Lyne agreed, noting that this would give them a chance to prepare for that question when they come to present. Farrell agreed that it would be reasonable to do that.

Chair Lyne followed up this last remark by asking if the trail would travel over the Coastal Connector. Before a response to this question was rendered, Commissioner Archbell stated that the Brunswick portion of the path is already represented on the literature surrounding this effort so it is involved already, noting that Brunswick is not being ignored in this effort. After a moment of silence, Foushee clarified that he is in support of this project, but wants it to come to a logical conclusion. Director Farrell noted that if it will come to the Recreation Commission in August he will let them know that this question has been raised and let them respond to how they want to approach it because the implications of this proposal are unclear. Chair Lyne wrapped up this portion of the meeting, but first inquired how many miles are left to develop between Brunswick and Bath. Farrell closing remark was that he recalled 11 miles remain on this path.

8 The next meeting of the Recreation Commission was scheduled for August 21, 2019 at 7:00pm in Town Council Chambers at the Brunswick Town Hall.

9 **ADJOURNMENT**

COMMISSIONER ARCHBELL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING; SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FOUSHEE; VOTE 5-0 UNANIMOUS OF THOSE PRESENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.